

What is claimed is:

1. A service switching point (SSP) servicing telephone calls based on a location of a calling party, said SSP comprising:

a trigger that causes said SSP to forward call information to a service control point when the SSP recognizes a call to an abbreviated telephone number, the call information including a telephone number of the calling party and SSP information; and

a router that receives a specific routing telephone number from the service control point and routes the call to the specific routing telephone number,

wherein the specific routing telephone number from the service control point is based on the SSP information when the SSP is not a split SSP, and is based on both location information of the calling party and the SSP information when the SSP is a split SSP.

2. The SSP according to claim 1 wherein information regarding processing of the telephone calls placed to the abbreviated telephone number is recorded.

3. The SSP according to claim 2 wherein the recorded information includes at least one of a calling telephone number, called telephone number, date, and time.

4. The SSP according to claim 2 wherein information regarding processing of the calls placed to the abbreviated telephone number is recorded in a data recording system.

5. The SSP according to claim 1 wherein the SSP has an associated signaling point code that indicates whether the SSP is a split SSP.

6. The SSP according to claim 1 wherein the SSP further comprises a distributed network function that measures usage.

7. The SSP according to claim 6 wherein the distributed network function produces automatic messaging accounting records.

8. The SSP according to claim 2 further comprising a report generator that generates reports based on the recorded information.

9. The SSP according to claim 1 wherein the abbreviated telephone number comprises three digits.

10. A method for routing telephone calls through a service switching point (SSP) based on a location of a calling party, said method comprising:

forwarding call information to a service control point when the SSP recognizes a call to an abbreviated telephone number, the call information including a number of the calling party number and SSP information; and

receiving a specific routing telephone number from the service control point and routing the call to the specific routing telephone number, the specific routing telephone number from the service control point is based on the SSP information when the SSP is

not a split SSP, and is based on both the location information of the calling party and the SSP information when the SSP is a split SSP.

11. The method according to claim 10 comprising:
recording information regarding processing the calls placed to the abbreviated telephone number.
12. The method according to claim 11 wherein the recorded information includes at least one of a calling telephone number, called telephone number, date, and time.
13. The method according to claim 11 comprising:
recording information regarding processing of the calls placed to the abbreviated telephone number in a data recording system.
14. The method according to claim 11 wherein the abbreviated dialed number comprises three digits.
15. The method according to claim 11 wherein the abbreviated dialed number comprises 1 plus three digits.
16. The method according to claim 11 wherein the abbreviated dialed number comprises 0 plus three digits.

17. The method according to claim 11 wherein the routing comprises routing the telephone call to a destination number corresponding to a closest destination to the calling party.

18. A service switching point (SSP) servicing telephone calls based on a location of a calling party, said SSP comprising:

a trigger that causes said SSP to forward call information to a service control point when the SSP recognizes a call to an abbreviated telephone number, the call information including a telephone number of the calling party and SSP information;

a router that receives a specific routing telephone number from the service control point and routes the call to the specific routing telephone number; and

a usage measurer that records abbreviated telephone number usage information, wherein the specific routing telephone number from the service control point is based on the SSP information when the SSP is not a split SSP, and is based on both location information of the calling party and the SSP information when the SSP is a split SSP.

19. The SSP according to claim 18 wherein the usage measurer is a distributed network function.

20. The SSP according to claim 18 wherein the usage measurer produces automatic message accounting records.